

# GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

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This Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **MISSOURI COMPREHENSIVE GUIDANCE MANUAL UPDATED!!!!!!**

As announced in the last Digest, the revised Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program Manual has been posted to the Missouri Center for Career Education website. The updated manual includes the Guidance and Placement Grade Level Expectations, a sample of the Internal Improvement Review document, updated Student Needs Survey, and many other things valuable to today's professional school counselor. To see the new manual, click on this link:

**Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program Manual**

### **NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK IS OCT. 21-27, 2007.**

The week is sponsored by PACER Center's National Center for Bullying Prevention and cosponsored by the American Federation for Teachers, National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education, National Education Association, National PTA, and School Social Work Association of America.

Teachers, parents, and children nationwide are encouraged to increase community awareness about the prevalence and impact of bullying. To see more about this, go to <http://www.pacer.org/bullying/bpaw/index.asp>

## **PROGRAM COMPONENTS:**

**(From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA listservs or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.)**

### **{CURRICULUM}**

For those interested in working with students in the area of personal finance, there is an interesting article about a high school teacher showing students how advertising influences them. It also applies to learning about making decisions. To see the article, please go to [http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/english/at\\_school/teachers/innovative/0507\\_tea.php](http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/english/at_school/teachers/innovative/0507_tea.php)

### **{INDIVIDUAL PLANNING}**

#### **A NEW DIRECTION FOR CAREERS:** Apprenticeships and traineeships offer a way for students to earn as they learn

Susan Blaser, a Journeyman Lineman for KCP&L, completed an apprenticeship in 1992 and became the first female lineman at KCP&L and in the state of Missouri. She is currently the Field and Technical Training Specialist at Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L) and would like to provide presentations and information on non-professional job opportunities that your students may not have known are available.

The utility industry is getting ready to go through a large retirement wave. KCP&L is currently building rapport with the area High Schools and Colleges to heighten the awareness of non-professional and non-traditional career paths.

KCP&L offers 12 different apprenticeships, with the largest hiring done in the Lineman classification. For this position they hire 24 a year. The job offers high wages, job security and great benefits. The industry is 40% short and that number is growing as the baby boomers begin their retirement.

KCP&L can offer students a 4 year paid apprenticeship at age 18. Once the apprenticeship is completed, they will have a base salary of \$60,000.00 a year. KCP&L also offers 2 year apprenticeships and entry level positions at their power plants. All these positions are rewarding and can lead to promotions and the ability to move to other areas of the Company. They also offer Education Reimbursement.

If this sounds like something you want to share with your students, Ms Blaser would like to have the opportunity to share this and other job opportunities that are great career paths of the future.

Please call her at 816-459-4432 or email her at [Susan.Blaser@kcpl.com](mailto:Susan.Blaser@kcpl.com) and she will put your career fair on her calendar or come to your school for a presentation.

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Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4212.

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## **AN IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT BRIGHT FLIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:**

Bright Flight scholarships are awarded to high school seniors who have a composite score on the ACT or the SAT in the top three percent of all Missouri students taking those tests. Each fall, the ACT and College Board assessment companies determine the score required by seniors for inclusion in the top three percent of test-takers.

That qualifying score has been announced for this year's high school seniors. For fall 2008 entering college freshmen, the qualifying ACT composite score will be **31** and the qualifying SAT scores will be **790 on the math portion and 780 on the verbal portion** of the exam. Bright Flight guidelines state that the qualifying score must be achieved on a national test date that falls on or before the June test date of a student's senior year in high school. That means seniors may take the test again, if they choose, on any of the dates between now and then.

## **{RESPONSIVE SERVICES}**

### **NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED**

Suicide Awareness Voices of Education (SAVE) has launched a new state-of-the-art website, providing comprehensive information on identifying depression, suicide prevention and extensive information on grieving with support materials for those who have lost a friend or loved one to suicide.

SAVE is a national, non profit organization based in Minnesota whose mission is to prevent suicide through public awareness and education, reduce the stigma associated with depression and serve as a resource to those touched by suicide. To visit the website, go to <http://www.save.org/>

### **ARTICLES ON BULLYING AVAILABLE**

Bullying has been and continues to be an area of concern. A recent issue of School Psychology Review: (*School Psychology Review: Vol. 36, Issue 3, 2007*) had several articles on the subject of bullying. The articles are available by using the Ebsco host search engine that is located at <http://www.ebscohost.com/>

## **{SYSTEM SUPPORT}**

### **RESOURCE AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOLS IN TIMES OF CRISIS:**

The U.S. Department of Education (ED)'s Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, in collaboration with ED's Emergency Response and Crisis Management (ERCM) Technical Assistance (TA) Center, is pleased to announce the release of two new **ERCMExpress** issues: *Paying Tribute to Deceased School Community Members*, (Volume 3, Issue 3, 2007) describes the importance of memorials, their role supporting the school community following a traumatic incident, and guidance for creating appropriate short- and long-term memorial and anniversary activities as coping mechanisms. The latest edition is available now at [http://ercm.ed.gov/views/documents/ERCMNewsletter\\_Memorials.pdf](http://ercm.ed.gov/views/documents/ERCMNewsletter_Memorials.pdf)

## **CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS OF NOTE:**

### **A. SEMINAR SCHEDULED**

The American Counseling Association of Missouri (ACAM) and Missouri Baptist University are hosting an outstanding Solution Focused Counseling seminar on Oct. 27. Both speakers have international reputations and Linda Metcalf will be specifically addressing school issues. Email [vanvaughn@mobap.edu](mailto:vanvaughn@mobap.edu) for registration forms and/further information.

### **B. THE MISSOURI MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS ASSOCIATION FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND MEETING** will be held on Nov. 1-3, 2007 at Tan-Tar-A. For more information, go to <http://www.mmhca.net/>

### **C. THE MISSOURI SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (MSCA) FALL CONFERENCE** will be held November 4-6, 2007 at Tan Tar A. Conference information is posted at <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/> .

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**D. THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BUILDING BRIDGES CONFERENCE** will be held November 11-13, 2007 at Tan Tar A. Registration is now open for the 2007 Building Bridges Conference. Keynote speakers for this year's conference are Dr. Gene Bottoms, Senior Vice-President for the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), and Dr. Willard Daggett, President of the International Center for Leadership in Education. For further information or to register, go to [HTTP://MISSOURICAREEREDUCATION.ORG/PD/CONFERENCE07.HTML](http://MISSOURICAREEREDUCATION.ORG/PD/CONFERENCE07.HTML)

**E. ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (ACTE) ANNUAL CONVENTION** will be held in Las Vegas NV on December 13-15, 2007. For information about the conference, go to <http://www.acteonline.org/convention/>

**F. MSCA SPRING CONFERENCE** will be held on March 7, 2008, at the Capital Plaza, Jefferson City, MO. Dr. Carolyn Stone, ASCA Past- President and ASCA Ethics Chair, will speak on LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS. To see information about this conference and download a registration form, go to <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/2008%20SPRING%20CONFERENCE%20Flyer.doc>

**G. 2008 MISSOURI ACT STATE ORGANIZATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE** will be held on March 12-13 2008 at the Holiday Inn Select in Columbia, Mo. For information about the conference and registration, go to [www.act.org/events](http://www.act.org/events)

**H. THE 32ND ANNUAL MISSOURI MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (MMSA) CONFERENCE** will be held on March 14-16, 2008 at Tan-Tar-A Resort. For information, go to <http://www.mmsa-mo.org/conference.html>